

RISK ASSESSMENT

ESTABLISHMENT: YEALM YACHT CLUB

ACTIVITY/ENVIRONMENT: CADET SAILING ACTIVITIES

ASSESSMENT DATE: March 2026: reviewed by the YYC Cadet Committee and YYC Sailing Committee

ORIGINAL ASSESSMENT COMPLETED BY: Mrs Anne Beighton and Mrs Caroline Hirst.

REVIEWED ASSESSMENT COMPLETED BY: Mrs Alexandra Graham and Mr Keith Phillips

REVIEW DUE: March 2027

Hazard <i>List significant hazards which may result in serious harm or affect several people.</i>	Who might be harmed? <i>List groups of people who are especially at risk from the significant hazards identified.</i>	Is the risk adequately controlled? <i>List existing controls or note where the information may be found. (e.g. Information, instruction training, systems or procedures)</i>	What further action is needed to control the risk? <i>List the risks which are not adequately controlled and proposed action where it is reasonably practicable to do more.</i>
Cadet does not have a parent present at a YYC Cadet event	Children	Parents of Cadets under 16 years of age to notify race officer in writing of who is responsible for their child; otherwise Cadet not permitted to sail at event.	Race officer/event organiser has a master list of cadets present and responsible adult details
Land based hazards such as slipping on the steps, slip way, falling off walls, being hit by boats on launching and retrieving; and falling off the quay into the water.	Children Adults	At their first YYC Cadet event, parents to be provided with a copy of the risk assessment and sign an Entry and Consent form on the understanding that they are fully responsible for their own child at all times (see 'points to note' below). A sign is in place at the top of the steps.	YYC maintains slipway to a reasonable standard, pressure washing/treating regularly to reduce chance of accidents
Injury to people in the water	Children Adults	Swimming for recreation is not permitted in the area while a race is underway. If parents allow their cadets to swim before or after a race they should alert the race officer and ensure that others in the vicinity are aware of who is swimming and where.	Publicise and enforce rules on the day and send reminders to parents
Helm and crew not able to handle boat in prevailing conditions	Children	By permitting the cadet to launch, parents imply the competence of the cadet and crew for the expected or forecast conditions as stated on Entry and Consent form.	Race Officer/Event Organiser can advise on competencies and warn of dangers
Boat getting swamped	Children	Dinghies currently used at the Club are mostly of a modern self draining design Those that are not should be monitored by the race officer and patrol boats, to guard against the boat being swamped.	
Inverted boat	Children	Dinghies currently used at the Club may invert but associated risks are reduced because of their designs.	Risks to be explained at a cadet training session
Equipment failure on dinghy	Children	Parents to warrant the suitability of the cadet's boat (see Entry and Consent form).	
Cadet injured whilst sailing, eg. hit by boom or other boat.	Children	All cadets to be encouraged to look out for one another and shout for assistance if required. First aid kits to be held in the patrol boats and in the club hut.	First Aid kits to be checked each season so that they are fit for purpose. Qualified first aider/doctor to be onshore whenever possible.
Medical incident	Children Adults	First aid kits to be held in the YYC hut and in patrol boats. Parents present to phone emergency services if required.	First Aid kits to be checked each season so that they are fit for purpose. Qualified first aider/doctor

		Head injury and first aid information is held on laminated sheets in the club hut.	to be onshore whenever possible.
Poor weather conditions leading to hypothermia	Children Adults	Parents to ensure that their child wears appropriate clothing at all YYC events (as stated on Entry and Consent form).	
Risk of drowning	Children	Parents and cadets to sign Entry and Consent form agreeing to ensure that a buoyancy aid is worn at all times when a cadet is afloat.	
Sudden extreme conditions causes problems for several cadets simultaneously	Children	Cadets to make their way to shore and walk back towards YYC, pulling their dinghy (or leaving it on the shore line secured before returning to the YYC)	
Sudden danger in location of event, eg. fierce squall, large wave, jellyfish alert	Children	All cadets to return to shore immediately if instructed to do so by the patrol boat crew or race officer. Parents to assist ashore.	
Trailers and Trolleys	Children Adults	Trailers and trolleys shall be parked at all times so as to avoid accidents i.e. tripping	Trailers and Trolleys to be named and in good working condition
Being rescued	Children Adults	Cadets to follow instructions from patrol boat crew. Patrol boat crew to wear buoyancy aids or lifejackets.	As many parents and volunteers as possible to undergo safety boat familiarisation course.
Child at risk from approaching patrol boat	Children	Patrol boat helms to cut engine (orange boat), or turn to neutral (launch), on approach to cadet in water. Orange boat to carry paddle at all times. Cadets and parents must be aware that the patrol craft has no propeller guard following a revised RYA policy stating that propeller guards are no longer recommended for use on patrol craft.	Ensure paddle is secured in orange boat as can be left in hut
Patrol boat does not respond to a cadet in difficulty	Children	Parents to keep an eye on their own child and to alert the race officer who can then contact patrol craft by radio.	Ensure radios are charged and operating before events start.

Patrol boat crew unable to assist cadets	Children	Minimum of 2 adults in each patrol boat with radio contact with Race Officer ashore. Adequate number of patrol boats to be manned for sessions if necessary.	Ensure radios are charged and operating before events start.
Fire on board safety boat.	Children Adults	No refuelling to take place while the engine is running.	No smoking on or near safety boats
Missing children	Children	Cadets under 16 years to be accompanied by a responsible named adult throughout events as stated on the Entry and Consent form. Responsible adults to be reminded to meet their cadet off the water	Register taken when children going on and off the water. Wristbands given in and out to aid registration and alert when numbers don't match

To ensure that all potential risks are kept to a minimum, please can all parents make themselves familiar with the 'Instructions for Race Officer at YYC Cadet events' laminated information sheets which are in the Club hut and on the Club website. Please make yourself aware of these responsibilities regardless of whether you have a duty or not as your vigilance will help to ensure optimum safety at all times.

Points to note:

- Risk assessment sheets to be distributed to parents of all Cadets before their first session, along with the Entry and Consent Form, Cadet sailing programme and YYC Cadet Information sheet.
- Entry and Consent form to state clearly that parents take full responsibility for their own child at all times.
- Entry and Consent forms to include parental responsibility for suitability of dinghy, appropriate clothing & wearing of buoyancy aid.
- All parents & Cadets to read & sign Entry and Consent form each year before entering Cadet events that season

- **YYC to ensure that an event does not go ahead without the provision of adequately manned patrol craft.**
- **Patrol craft to be in radio contact with race officer ashore whenever possible.**
- **Adults with mobile phones to contact emergency services if needed.**
- **When the affiliated community sailing is participating in YYC cadet events, all community sailors will be the responsibility of community sailing with their own patrol craft and instructors.**